

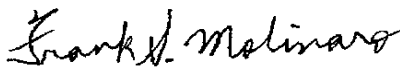
U.S. Appln. No. 09/905,538  
Response and Amendment dated December 17, 2003  
Reply to Office action of October 3, 2003  
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REMARKS

Claims 1-13 stand rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1, 9, 10, 5, 6, 11-18 of U.S. Patent No. 6,579,460 B1. Although applicants respectfully traverse this rejection, in an effort to expedite prosecution, the Examiner's attention is directed to the attached terminal disclaimer which disclaims the terminal part of any patent granted on the above identified application, which would extend beyond the expiration date of the full statutory term of the '460 patent.

In view of the attached terminal disclaimer and the above remarks, applicants assert that the rejection for obviousness type double patenting is rendered moot and respectfully request that it be withdrawn. Applicants also request allowance of all pending claims.

Respectfully submitted,



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